

Policy Matters Ohio released a report in February 2009 that found that over 2.8 million Ohioans—roughly 25 percent—are not earning enough income to meet their basic needs. The latest unemployment statistics for the State of Ohio show that unemployment is still on the rise at 10.8 percent. The national unemployment rate is 9.5 percent. These numbers are expected to increase in the coming weeks and months.

The resources that are allocated to SNAP by this bill are desperately needed. I support this bill and urge its passage.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 127, Recognizing the Significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month. I thank my friend The Gentle lady from California, BARBARA LEE for her hard work on this very important resolution. This resolution ensures that every June, we recognize the many contributions of Caribbean-Americans and highlight the issues facing the Caribbean community.

I have the distinct honor and privilege of representing New York's 11th Congressional District, located in central Brooklyn. And as a child of Jamaican immigrants, I have experienced first hand the impact Caribbean Americans can have on a community, let alone a nation. That is why I have been a staunch advocate for Caribbean issues my entire public life; fighting to ensure that the agenda of Caribbean Americans are visible on the national stage.

From the various Caribbean Associations dedicated to helping Caribbean Americans with myriad issues, to the West-Indian American Day Carnival on Eastern Parkway, the influence and impact of Caribbean descendants is undeniable.

Caribbean Americans have contributed greatly to our nation as a whole. Some prominent Caribbean Americans include: My predecessor and role model, Former U.S. Representative Shirley Chisholm, the first African American female Member of Congress, who was of Caribbean descent; Former Secretary of State Collin Powell, both the first African American to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of State of Jamaican lineage; Jamaica Kincaid, an American novelist; social activists Stokely Carmichael and Malcolm X; and dancer Pearl Primus, to name a few.

In Brooklyn, there have been many who have influenced my advocacy for the Caribbean community. People like my mother Dr. Una Clarke, who was the first Caribbean born woman elected to the New York City's Legislature; Lemuel Stanislaus of Grenada; Dr. Henry Frank of Haiti; and Carlos Rosada of Grenada, chairman of the West-Indian American Day Carnival Association, continue to remind me of the fight for equality, not only for the Caribbean community and their countries of origin, but for all.

While Caribbean Americans have made great strides, there are still lingering issues affecting Caribbean Americans in this country. Caribbean immigrants often have little money or access to practical information when making their transition to the United States, making them the targets of immigration fraud. As a result, earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 1992, the Immigration Fraud Prevention Act of 2009, which makes it a federal crime to willfully misrepresent the immigration process through fraud or false representation.

I also introduced H.R. 2071, which directs the Secretary of Commerce to include Caribbean descent as an option on census questionnaires. This will finally bring recognition to the broad diversity of Caribbean natives that call our country home and ensure an accurate count and proper representation.

Our nation's "third border", shared with the Caribbean community, links the security of the U.S. with our island neighbors. In 2007, a joint-report by the United Nations Office of Drug and Crime and the World Bank linked rising crime rates in Caribbean nations to an increase in drug-trafficking. In the 110th Congress, I introduced H. Res. 1504 which calls for increased cooperation between U.S. and Caribbean officials to combat this problem. Last week, I came to this floor to express my support for provisions within H.R. 2410, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 2009 that added the Caribbean community (CARICOM), to the Merida Initiative. This initiative is a multi-year program that works in partnership with governments in Mexico, the nations of Central America, the Dominican Republic and Haiti to confront criminal organizations whose illicit actions undermine public safety, erode the rule of law, and threaten the national security of the United States.

I also expressed my appreciation for the Shirley A. Chisholm Educational Exchange Program authorized in the bill. These provisions promote security and education within the Caribbean community, fostering social and economic development abroad and keeping us safe at home.

Again it is my honor as a child of the Caribbean and my duty as the Representative of the 11th Congressional District of New York, to urge my colleagues to stand with me in supporting this Resolution. I thank Congresswoman LEE for leading the charge on this and for yielding time.

VOTE CLARIFICATION ON ROLL-CALL NO. 503 THE HENSARLING AMENDMENT NO. 6 TO H.R. 2997, THE AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam speaker, I submit a clarification of my vote on Rollcall No. 503 the Hensarling Amendment No. 6, to H.R. 2997. I mistakenly voted "nay" when I intended to vote "yea". The amendment would have Prohibited funds from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service from being

used for an earmark for the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy project, Kiski Basin, Pennsylvania, and reduces the overall amount of the appropriations in the bill by \$200,000.

I had mistakenly believed that I had voted yea and it was not until after the vote had closed that I realized that I had pressed the wrong button and voted nay. My vote against the Hensarling amendment was purely accidental and I regret my error and appreciate the opportunity for clarification.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MARY SUE ALEXANDER

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mary Sue Alexander, a lifelong resident of Greenville, Texas, who passed away earlier this year at the age of 90.

Born in Greenville, Texas to Ed. B. Williams Sr. and Susie Lee Joiner, Mrs. Alexander found meaning in her family, her community, and her faith. She married her husband of 38 years, Sam Reeves Alexander, on June 5, 1937, and they had two daughters.

In her community, Mrs. Alexander was a member of the Junior Palace Club and the Dirdobbers Garden Club. She enjoyed entertaining, cooking, and participated in two bridge clubs. Mrs. Alexander was a loyal member of Wesley United Methodist Church in Greenville for 79 years.

She is survived by her two daughters, Patricia DeVeney and Sue Ann Harting, former mayor of Greenville; three grandchildren, Dianne DeVeney, David DeVeney, and Alexandra Alexander; one great-granddaughter, Shannon Nicole DeVeney; one sister, Rosabel Warren; and many nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Alexander was beloved by her family and many friends, and I join them today in paying our last respects to this wonderful woman, Mrs. Mary Sue Alexander.

CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. HENRY E. BAUER

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a World War II veteran from Minneapolis, Minnesota, Mr. Henry E. Bauer, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on July 15, 2009. Every American who served in the military during World War II has a unique story, and Mr. Bauer is no exception.

He joined the Army Air Corps on June 5, 1942, at the age of 33. The desire of our country's youth to serve in the war was unprecedented and like so many others, Mr. Bauer answered the call of service to protect our nation at a time of great need. Henry landed at Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944, little more than a month away from his 35th birthday. He was discharged as a Staff Sergeant after the war and returned to his family and friends on November 21, 1945.